

M I D D L E E A S T A N D S O U T H A S I A R E V I E W

8 APRIL 1981

Lebanon

Military Situation--Beirut radio reported that clashes continued in Beirut and Zahlah throughout 7 April. Although Beirut was calm by the evening, the radio said, fighting intensified in Zahlah. An Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) statement, broadcast by the radio, disclosed that artillery from the west shelled the town of Shtawrah, near Zahlah. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the Christian forces in Zahlah repulsed successive ADF attacks on their positions. Although ADF units withdrew from Tallat al-Hammar, they have been regrouping around the city, the radio reported, and "major concentrations" equipped with tanks, heavy weapons and rocket launchers are expected to reinforce them. On 8 April the radio reported that new Syrian units had arrived in the Al-Biqa' area from Syria. The radio also reported continued firing in Beirut on 8 April. In the south, further shelling was reported by Beirut and Voice of Hope radios.

Talks With Khaddam--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam held talks in Beirut with top Lebanese leaders, Beirut radio reported. In remarks after the meeting, broadcast by the radio, Khaddam said they discussed measures for a comprehensive solution of the Lebanese crisis. He did not say whether a cease-fire agreement had been reached but accused those who have tried to prevent the implementation of measures agreed upon by the Syrian and Lebanese presidents at their recent summit of being responsible for the current fighting. He dismissed Secretary of State Alexander Haig's expressed concern over the events in Lebanon by saying that the secretary should have mentioned the "crimes and tragedies" perpetrated by U.S. weapons in Lebanon, including the displacement of "hundreds of thousands" of people from the south. Before the "practical steps" discussed at the meeting are implemented, Khaddam went on, the various parties in Lebanon must accept them. He stressed that Syria does not favor any party in the country but supports a "unified Lebanon" and all its citizens. In an interview with Beirut radio, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan described the talks with Khaddam as "positive and serious," saying they dealt with ways to relax the tension in Zahlah and other "tense areas."

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that the National Movement leadership met and issued a statement denouncing the "biased stance" of President Ilyas Sarkis and Lebanese Army Commander Victor Khuri in favor of the Phalangist and "sectarian" militias. The Syrian daily TISHRIN, reviewed by Damascus radio, accused Secretary Haig of inciting the Phalangists to cause violence in Lebanon to create a "smokescreen" for his Middle East tour. In Beirut, President Sarkis met separately with U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean and French envoy Hugert Argod, Beirut radio reported. The radio also noted that UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart arrived in the capital to meet with Lebanese officials.

Haig Middle East Tour

Secretary Haig left Jordan for Saudi Arabia, Amman television reported, after a day of talks with Jordanian leaders. Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim said that during the talks his government presented its views on the Middle East in a "direct, clear and amicable manner." According to Amman radio, Haig earlier met with Crown Prince Hasan, who told him that if the Palestinian problem is not honorably resolved, the Arab states' confidence in the "big powers" will be weakened. SPA reported that after arriving in Saudi Arabia Secretary Haig held talks with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, during which they discussed the current situation in the Middle East and bilateral relations.

Iran

Bani-Sadr Representative--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr appointed Shahabeddin Eshraqi as his representative on the three-man committee to investigate differences among Iran's top

officials. In a letter of appointment, broadcast by Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr urged Eshraqi, who is Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's son-in-law, to uphold the Constitution and defend judicial freedom and security in his work on the committee. Bani-Sadr said the committee should prevent violations of the law by officials, uphold press freedom, prevent terrorism and club wielding and ensure that decisions are "openly and clearly explained" to the public.

Prosecutor General's Announcement--In a 6 April statement, broadcast by Tehran radio, Prosecutor General 'Abdolkarim Musavi Ardabili announced that after collecting evidence on the 5 March Tehran University disturbances, the judges would shortly prepare their indictments and refer cases to the courts. He said the authorities have decided to deal firmly with "certain newspapers" responsible for "provocations."

MIZAN Closure, Press Licenses--AFP, citing the pro-Bani-Sadr newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, reported that the judicial authorities have closed MIZAN, a newspaper associated with former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan. According to another AFP report, Bazargan and five Majlis deputies have protested the arrest of MIZAN's director, Reza Sadr, and the newspaper's staff will resist the closure by attempting to continue working normally. The Islamic Guidance Ministry issued a statement, broadcast by Tehran radio, announcing that publishers may not legally print newspapers without written confirmation of their licenses from the ministry.

Iraq

Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi has revealed that Iraq submitted a memorandum to the Islamic Conference good offices committee demanding that Iran pay Iraq "all appropriate compensation" for Iraq's "human and material sacrifices" during the war with Iran. In an interview published in the 5 April issue of ATH-THAWRAH, Hammadi said Iraq took this position--which differed from its stand at the beginning of the war--because Iran's continued intransigence showed that its hostile stand was "premeditated" and because the continued fighting was causing Iraq further human and material losses. Turning to relations with the United States, Hammadi said that relations cannot be restored unless the circumstances that caused them to be broken change. However, he added that Iraq does not believe relations will remain broken forever. He said Iraq does not think U.S. policy will alter with the change in administrations and that the main issue influencing U.S.-Iraqi relations is the Arab-Israeli conflict. Iraqi policy, he concluded, depends on the "specific steps" taken by the United States regarding this conflict.

Libya

In a speech marking the April 1976 student uprising in Libya, broadcast by Tripoli radio, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi called on Libyan students to incite the masses in the Arab world to stage a revolution in the Arab homeland "now that we have become certain of the failure of all the instruments operating in the Arab arena to realize anything for the Arab nation." Claiming that the "Zionist enemy" and America are the "faithful guardians" of most Arab governments, Al-Qadhdhafi declared that a "great danger will threaten the Arab nation's future" as long as these governments continue to exist. Singling out Sudan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Morocco for criticism, he asserted that no Arab can be an enemy of Israel and at the same time a friend of the United States. The "counterattack" on such regimes has begun, he added, revealing that Libya is aiding the Somali national salvation front and stressing the need to aid the Oman liberation front. He also emphasized that the situation demands a "greater widening" of the "revolutionary explosion" in the Maghreb.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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KESHTMAND ON U.S., USSR APPROACH TO AFGHAN ISSUE

LD062348 Prague CTK in English 1857 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Prague, 6 Apr (CETKA)--Foreign journalists reporting on the 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia watched on the television the party's General Secretary Gustav Husak while he was delivering the report on party activities after the 15th Congress.

In the evening, the journalists had the first meeting with foreign guests to the congress and the delegation of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, headed by Central Committee member and Deputy Premier Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, who spoke about the history of the just fight of the Afghan people and present developments in his country.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand mentioned a number of projects underway in Afghanistan and stressed that there exists no force able to lead the country off its progressive road. The head of the Afghan delegation answered the journalists' questions.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said about U.S. President Ronald Reagan that "it is difficult to ask a tiger to get rid of its stripes." He was speaking about possible changes in the approach to the new U.S. administration to the "question of Afghanistan." Imperialists intentionally arouse this non-existent issue. "In any case, we want the United States to stop its interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, just as the Chinese hegemonists," Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand stressed.

He described as the only solution the statement made by Leonid Brezhnev at the 26th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party that Afghanistan can be discussed only in connection with the global solution of the Middle East issue.

KABUL GARRISON SUPPORTS PDPA PLENUM RESOLUTIONS

LD071646 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] The cadres and party activists of the eighth division of the central garrison [in Kabul] today supported the resolutions of the Fifth Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee in a meeting held in the political enlightenment room of division headquarters. Col (Dagarwal Khalil), commander of the central garrison and the chief of the DRA Armed Forces General Directorate of Political Affairs also participated.

The commander of the central garrison spoke about the duties of party members in implementing the resolutions of the Fifth Plenum of the Central Committee and drew the attention of the members of the party to the consolidation of unity in the party ranks, party and military discipline and the enhancement of combat readiness. The meeting ended with the reading of a resolution.

NEW PERIODICAL BAMIAN BEGINS PUBLICATION

GF071545 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] A new periodical named BAMIAN has been added to the newspapers and journals of the country. This new periodical, reflecting the aspirations of the toiling people of Bamian, carries the picture of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister. The first issue includes reportage on current affairs, news and the program of the Ministry of Information and Culture.

AFP: SOVIETS BOMB LOWGAR; TWO HELICOPTERS SHOT DOWN

BK081044 Hong Kong AFP in English 1033 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] New Delhi, 8 Apr (AFP)--Soviet air strength bombed areas in Lowgar Province, adjoining Kabul, on Saturday [4 Apr] leaving 200 dead or missing, Western diplomatic sources said here today. The bombing was heavy in Babus, a rebel stronghold. The informants here had, however, no other details.

At least two Soviet MI-24 helicopters were shot down by the rebels in Charikar in Parvan Province on April 1, the sources said. The rebels also destroyed a large number of trucks, jeeps, and some armoured personnel carriers (APCs) in (Jahaq) in Bamian Province sometime last week.

AFP: 20,000 SOVIET REINFORCEMENTS FLOWN IN

BK080831 Hong Kong AFP in English 0821 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] New Delhi, 8 Apr (AFP)--The Soviet Union has sent 20,000 to 22,000 additional troops into Afghanistan during the last two weeks, Western diplomatic sources said here today. The troops were apparently flown in by AN-12 and IL-76 transport planes. The informants here said the first report of an increase in the Soviet military strength in Afghanistan was reported last week.

Third World diplomatic sources here confirmed the heavy air activities in Kabul and the Bagram Air Base about 56 kms (33 miles) north of the Afghan capital and said it began in the last week of March. The sources, however, could not confirm if the Soviets had brought in such a large number of additional troops as reported by the Western diplomatic sources.

"The Soviets have certainly brought in new troops, but it is extremely difficult to say what is their number and if they were for replacing the soldiers who have completed their turn in Afghanistan or are new additions," said a diplomatic source.

This is the first time since the Soviet Union marched its troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 that Western diplomatic sources reported the arrival of such a large number of additional Soviet troops, observers said. In June last year, the Soviet Union had flown in 10,000 troops from its reserve of 30,000 troops on the Afghan-Soviet border and since then there had been no report of an increase in the Soviet military strength which remained between 85,000 to 88,000. In September last, the Soviets had, however, flown in troops to replace the blonde teenage draftees, by more hardened soldiers, earlier reports had said. The Western diplomatic sources said long Soviet and Afghan military convoys were observed moving in different directions from the Afghan capital during the week. The cargo included building materials for new Soviet installations. The sources said an unspecified number of Soviet Army units had taken up residence at the Rishkor Afghan Army garrison, near Kabul.

Meanwhile, knowledgeable military experts here said the new troops were flown in to supplement the Soviet efforts to enforce strict security in and around the Afghan capital. Soviet soldiers started playing a larger security role in Kabul beginning early this month following the departure of four Afghan Army divisions from Kabul to garrisons in the provinces, the experts said. An estimated 16,000 to 20,000 Afghan troops of the 4th and 15th Armoured Divisions and the 7th and 8th Infantry Divisions had moved out of Kabul to Herat and Qandahar garrisons, the experts said. Though in normal times the strength of an Afghan division is 12,000 to 13,000, now it has gone down to 4,000 to 5,000 men, the expert said. "The Soviets obviously needed an equal number of men to fill up the gap since they cannot get Afghans to join the army. Moscow had no option but to bring in additional troops," said one military expert.

NONALIGNED PEACE GROUP LEAVES DELHI FOR BAGHDAD

BK080535 Hong Kong AFP in English 0526 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] New Delhi, 8 Apr (AFP)--The four-member non-aligned peace group left here today for Baghdad on the first leg of its mission to end the Gulf war. The group, consisting of foreign ministers of India, Cuba and Zambia and the permanent representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) at the United Nations took off in a special Cuban plane for the Iraqi capital. After two days in Iraq the group will go to Tehran.

Indian Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao told newsmen before explaining that the group did not hope to find a solution easily. "It is a very complicated matter because it is not easy to find a way out," Mr Rao said. The Indian foreign minister, who spoke on behalf of the group, said it was not carrying any proposals. "We will try to understand the position of the two countries after talking to them and a time will come when proposals will be discussed and framed," he said. "We have to find a solution and we will try our best for that," he said, and emphasized that a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq must be achieved for the unity of the Non-aligned Movement and world peace. Both the Gulf countries are members of the movement.

The peace group was formed soon after the February meeting of the Non-aligned Foreign ministers here called for efforts to end the Gulf war.

GANDHI APPEALS FOR NATIONAL UNITY, DEPLORES VIOLENCE

BK071607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has called for a national movement to strengthen the unity and integrity of the country. Addressing a seminar on the role of primary teachers in national integration in New Delhi today she said such a movement is necessary to make the future of the country safe. She regretted that there are now agitations in some parts of the country and violence is increasing.

Mrs Gandhi said some forces are trying to weaken the country. These forces and a section of media in the world do not want to see India becoming strong and prosperous. They have been carrying on propaganda against the country by highlighting even small incidents and completely blacking out its achievements. These forces have been trying to put obstacles in the way of our progress. Mrs Gandhi said the country has been able to overcome many of the hurdles and march forward.

MINISTER CRITICIZES DACCA'S STANCE ON GANGES ISSUE

BK071536 Hong Kong AFP in English 1504 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] New Delhi, 7 Apr (AFP)--Agriculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh said today the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) could not carry out its work of submitting recommendations due to the non-cooperation of Bangladesh.

Mr Singh, who was making a statement on the final review of the 1979 Indo-Bangladesh agreement on sharing of Ganges waters at Farakka and augmenting its flows made last week in Dacca at an inter-ministerial meeting, said: "Though the two sides held different views as to the causes, the Indian side showed during the review that the stand adopted by Bangladesh in the Joint Rivers Commission thwarted even commencement of the studies. Moreover, despite the fact that the agreement specifically required the JRC to submit augmentation proposals within a period of 3 years, it became apparent that Bangladesh did not wish to cooperate in the task of the commission."

Mr Singh, who led the Indian delegation to the Dacca talks said both India and Bangladesh were of the view that a decision had to be taken at "a high political level" if the flow of Ganges waters was to be augmented at Farakka outside the 1977 agreement.

CPI-M LEADER SUPPORTS UNITY EFFORT OF WORLD COMMUNISM

BK070717 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Text] General Secretary of the Communist Party of India-Marxist E.M.S. Namboodiripad said that his party will fully support any effort to reestablish unity of the international communist movement. In his inaugural address to the Kerala state plenum of the party, he said disunity in the communist movement, particularly between the Soviet and the Chinese parties, has only helped what he called imperialist domination.

LOK DAL SPLITS AGAIN; DEMOCRATIC PARTY FORMED

BK050907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Apr 81

[Text] The Lok Dal headed by Mr Charan Singh formally split for the second time today. This followed a decision by Mr Chandrajit Yadev and Mr Banarasi Das to chart their own course under a new banner Janvadi [Democratic] Party. Mr Yadev, in his presidential address at the party's 2-day national convention, which began today in New Delhi, said the style of functioning of Lok Dal President Charan Singh paved the way for its disintegration. The Lok Dal had split first when Mr Raj Narain walked out of the party and launched the Janata-S, now known as the Socialist Party. Several delegates from different states are attending the inaugural convention of the Democratic Party.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION INCREASES; FOODGRAINS UP

BK080949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Agricultural production in the country registered an 18 percent increase during 1980-81 compared to the previous year, while foodgrains showed an increase of 22 percent sugarcane 20 percent and oil seed achieved 16 percent.

According to the 1980-81 report of the Department of Agriculture, the total foodgrains production during the period will reach 133 million tons. The production of foodgrains in the kharif season has been 79.5 million tons, an all-time record.

BRIEFS

EXPORTS TO USSR--Exports from India to the Soviet Union during 1976-80 were worth 5.7 billion rupees. This is more than double the figure during the 1971-75 period which stood at 2.7 billion rupees. Disclosing this in New Delhi on 1 April, Soviet trade representative (Sennon) said India has become the leading trade partner of his country among the developing nations. He said the Soviet Union intends to buy goods from India even more than what it imports now. Among other things it is mainly interested in importing cotton, textiles and engineering goods from India. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Apr 81 BK]

GOVERNMENT TO STAY UNTIL ISLAMIC SOCIETY ACHIEVED

BK071520 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has called for collective national efforts for the establishment of a true Islamic society which is the very basis of the creation of Pakistan. Addressing a large gathering of councillors, ulema and prominent citizens in Mardan this afternoon, he declared that the goal was the setting up of an Islamic Government in accordance with the wishes of the people. They wanted to complete this process through evolution and not through revolution so that the transfer of power could take place to the chosen representatives of the people. He said this could be ensured with complete cooperation between the people and the government.

The government was setting up a Federal Council to be known as the Majlis-e Shoora to associate the people in the Islamization of society. The members of the Majlis-e Shoora to be nominated, one from each constituency, would have to fulfill three main qualifications, namely that their ideological outlook was above board, that there was no contradiction between their words and deeds and that they were capable of winning the confidence of the people.

The Majlis, which will comprise 300 to 350 members, would lay down a plan of action for further steps in the achievement of the goals set by the government. He declared that the present government would remain in power until it had achieved the goal of the establishment of an Islamic society whether it took them 6 months or 6 years.

The president emphasized that it was their national duty to safeguard the country's ideological and geographical frontiers. He said in the ideological state of Pakistan there was no room for secularism or any other ism. The overwhelming majority of the people stood for the Nizam-e Eslami. It was the duty of the people to identify the hidden elements who were opposed to the country's ideology and weed them out. The country was passing through a most critical juncture and the nation must pledge itself to contribute to the building of Pakistan into a model Islamic state.

Referring to the situation across the northwest frontier, the president said Pakistan had no enmity toward Afghanistan and they had taken a stand based on principles in view of the foreign intervention in that country. He pointed out that the independence of the brotherly and neighborly Islamic country of Afghanistan had been usurped and there were now 80,000 foreign troops in that country. Pakistan could not remain indifferent to this situation because its own security could also be threatened in the same way as that of Afghanistan. It had raised its voice and protests against the foreign military intervention where the mojahedin were fighting for their freedom. He said they could only pray for the success of their struggle for liberty.

He said the number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan now stood at 2 million who were being provided food and shelter despite Pakistan's own limited resources. Out of these about 1.5 million refugees were in the Northwest Frontier Province who were being treated by the people of this province reviving the spirit of the [words indistinct] demonstrated 1,400 years ago.

The president declared that Pakistan had no aggressive designs against any country and its people would not (?fear) even the supreme sacrifice for the defense of their country and Islamic ideology.

He announced financial assistance for the district council and municipal committee to enable it [words indistinct] for the welfare of the poor and the needy.

Earlier, presenting the address of welcome, the chairman of the district council and the chairman of the municipal committee of Mardan assured the president of the people's wholehearted cooperation for the fraternity of Islam and the solidarity and integrity of Pakistan.

ZIAUL HAQ SPEAKS ON ISLAMIC JUDICIAL SYSTEM

BK081111 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Excerpt] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has announced that the Shariat Court had been reorganized with a view to providing quick justice to the people in accordance with the Islamic injunction. He was addressing a large gathering of councillors of Rawalpindi division as well as notables in the area in Jhelam this afternoon.

Referring to the recently introduced interim Constitution, he said the main aim was to provide exemplary punishment to those involved in serious crimes. These crimes, he added, would be dealt with by martial law courts so that antinational elements might be eliminated, but it was never the government's intention to set up more martial law courts. On the contrary, the number had been reduced to the minimum. They wanted them to ensure administration of justice in accordance with Islam.

Pointing out that the martial law government came into power in 1977 to eradicate corruption, murders and decoities [robberies], he said if it did not fully succeed it was because of certain obstacles created by the Constitution and law and that was why the interim Constitution had been imposed.

The president said the government had paid utmost attention to four priorities--namely, providing easy justice, solving the people's problems, eradication of corruption, and controlling the increasing cost of living. To reduce its impact on the poorer section, special attention had been paid to the plight of the salaried people.

The president said as a first step to restore democracy, they brought about the local bodies system. The majority of the councillors were serving the cause of the people and Islam. The goal before them, the president declared, was to establish a true Islamic society in the real sense of the word so that the people's representatives could be selected through a proper Islamic election system. He said he was happy to note that a (?vivid) change had come about as a result of various measures taken by the government for the enforcement of Islam. He said the Zakat committees should set up certain institutions whereby they could provide a permanent source of income to the destitute and other deserving people.

JOURNALISTS UNION URGES LIFTING OF CENSORSHIP

BK080706 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] The 3-day meeting of the administrative committee of the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists, (Rashid Siddiqui) Group, has ended in Lahore. Several resolutions were approved at the meeting including two resolutions concerning the lifting of censorship and the implementation of the third wage board award.

FORMER PRISONERS SEEK ASYLUM IN UK, AFGHANISTAN

BK080702 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL, citing authoritative sources in London, has reported that 8 of the 54 prisoners who were sent to Syria by the Pakistan Government in accordance with the demand of the hijackers of the Pakistan International Airlines aircraft have asked for asylum from the British Government.

According to the news agency, their appeal was delivered by the Syrian Government to the British Government. According to these sources, several of the remaining 46 prisoners have asked for asylum from the Karmal regime while some others have appealed to the Karmal administration as well as India and Libya in this regard.

DAWN: NONALIGNED STATUS MUST BE UPHELD IN U.S. DEAL

BK080625 Karachi DAWN in English 30 Mar 81 p 7

[Editorial: "Security and Non-Alignment"]

[Text] The U.S. State Department's announcement that Mr Agha Shahi has been invited to visit Washington to help establish "new and durable" relations is most significant. This announcement has come in the wake of a statement by a spokesman of the Pakistan Foreign Office that Pakistan and the United States have been engaged in an exchange of views but no secret agreement on an aid package has been reached. These announcements should dispel the misgivings which some tendentious reports have sought to create. It is known that Islamabad and Washington have for some time been involved in the process of reappraising their relationship and placing it on a new footing. The implications of this can be quite far-reaching in view of the shift that has taken place in America's foreign policy orientation since the assumption of office by President Reagan. With the revival of traditional superpower rivalry, it is understandable that Washington should wish to place its ties with countries in the frontline with the USSR on a new footing. Since Afghanistan is a major East-West issue today and Pakistan is the country most directly affected by the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, it is not surprising that Islamabad should become the focal point of attention.

This could, undoubtedly, prove to be a development of major significance for Pakistan in its quest for security in a regional environment whose most prominent characteristic is the newly established military presence of a superpower in the immediate neighbourhood. The situation in Afghanistan has created new compulsions for Pakistan to strengthen its defences, and a sympathetic understanding of its position by the major powers can be an important factor in its endeavour to strengthen its security. However, it is equally important that Pakistan steers clear of the contention between the superpowers and that Islamabad's strategic defence policy remains consistent with its non-alignment. Only the other day, Mr Agha Shahi also stated in an interview with a foreign newspaper that Pakistan seeks no direct arms assistance and would prefer to pay for the arms it receives, but at cut-rate prices. From Mr Shahi's interview it is clear that the government's major concern is to preserve the country's non-aligned status. These moves to uphold Pakistan's non-alignment and to revamp the relationship with the United States on the basis of mutual trust and reciprocity and in consideration of the need to pursue agreed bilateral objectives are to be welcomed.

In view of the hard-line policy adopted by the Reagan administration vis-a-vis Moscow and Mr Haig's open canvassing for a "physical military presence" in the Gulf and south-west Asian region, it is only appropriate that Pakistan should have clarified its position on the issue. Mr Reagan's strategy centres round enlisting the support of the regional states in formulating a firm response to what he perceives as Soviet expansionism in south-west Asia. Now the working hypothesis of Pakistan's policy, since it chose to cast in its lot with the non-aligned camp, has been that non-alignment serves Pakistan's national security and otherwise optimises our advantages in international dealings, especially our dealings with most Islamic and Third World countries. The basic issue to ponder is whether the Soviet incursion into the Afghanistan, which Moscow says is temporary but without indicating when it will end, has invalidated that working hypothesis. If it has, the answer is to revert to alignment more or less on the pattern of the 1950's, assuming that the United States is in a position to offer credible and binding guarantees of Pakistan's security. There may be a temptation to say 'yes' because the parallelism between the United States and Pakistan policies is patent and undeniable. If, in spite of this parallelism and the renewed interest which the United States has been showing in strengthening the security of Pakistan by virtue of the firm American commitment to the defence of the neighbouring oil region and of the sea lanes serving it, the answer is 'no', our diplomatic striving will have to be conducted within the framework of non-alignment. Hence, any arrangement for arms supply that Pakistan enters into with the United States will have to be subject to this vital consideration. Acquiring arms for self-defence is no sin for a non-aligned country. Some non-aligned countries have made massive arms deals with one of the two superpowers and some others have diverse sources of weapons supply. The important thing is the terms on which a deal takes place. The government has been very circumspect in dealing with the issue. It has been sensitive to the need for guarding our non-aligned credentials. Pakistan has joined the Non-aligned Movement only recently and it has yet to consolidate its position in the movement. In this context, Pakistan has to be extremely wary of any suggestion that a durable bilateral relationship with the United States involves the grant of special facilities by Pakistan. This has to be ruled out as a non-option in our geopolitical circumstances.

It would be compatible with a policy of non-alignment if Pakistan were to purchase the arms it requires for its defence and security. Until 1965 Pakistan had received arms and weapons gratis from Washington and in return it had provided the Americans base facilities near Peshawar from where the ill-fated U2 had taken off in 1960. But if Islamabad pays for the arms it acquires, it should not be obliged to provide any other facility in return. Mr Shahi has spoken of acquiring arms at cut-rate prices as India has been doing from the Soviet Union. This should not jeopardise Pakistan's non-alignment, so long as the United States does not seek a quid pro quo for the arms it sells at reduced rates. What is important is that Pakistan and the United States work out a relationship of cooperation strictly on a basis of reciprocity and mutuality. If their security goals in the region coincide, it should obviously make it easier for them to reach an understanding, but this should not be at the cost of the sovereignty and independence of action of the smaller partner. Moreover, it should not prejudice in any way the position Pakistan would adopt on developments involving the superpowers in the region.

KHOMAYNI ADDRESSES PILOTS OF 4 APR ATTACK ON IRAQ

LD071256 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] According to reports from the Central New Bureau's correspondent, the courageous and fast-flying pilots of the air force who took part in the successful operations on 4 April which destroyed four important bases in Iraq, were received this morning together with Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and commander of the air force, by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also at this meeting were Mr Chamran, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni.

First, the commander of the air force introduced the brave pilots to the imam of the nation and informed the imam of the details of the successful operations carried out by the selfless personnel of the air force. Then the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed them. We draw your attention to this speech:

[Begin Khomeyni recording] (?In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful). The more I hear about the gravity of the operations carried out by you gentlemen, and the planning of these operations, the more I come to know the depth of the issue. This operation proves that, with the grace of God, our dear youths--relying on their faith and God--do their work in such a way as to cause amazement. If I had anything greater than prayers, I would have presented it to you. But my prayers for you in the past and now are greater than any gift and I beseech Almighty God to grant you success in everything you do to protect your country and dear Islam, and to uproot by your perseverance the corruption that still exists in the country.

I have always supported and will always support the army, the air force, the ground forces and all the armed forces, and I have and will represent the nation in doing so. I think you deserve the support of the nation and the nation is behind you. I hope this bond will remain intact, the bond between you gentlemen from the air force, the ground force, other armed forces and the nation.

You should note that the clerics who come among you to do certain work, within the limits in which that work should be done, are doing so in your interests and that of the nation and Islam. There were hands that tried to separate you from the clergy and turn the nation against you. You should note that if the clergy are with you--of course they should act within the limits of their assignment and should have certain powers--they support you and when the representatives of the clergy are present in garrisons, this is beneficial to you. If someone tells you this is harmful to you, it is not true. People will remain your supporters because of this point. I hope the present connection achieved between all levels of society will remain intact, and our nation will be able to make progress because of this connection. Of course, if there are grievances about young clerics, this should be solved by referring the problem to me or other people present at the location. Limits should be known, and you gentlemen should not prevent the clergy from doing what they are supposed to do; they should not exceed their limits, either. So, each person knows what he should do. The cleric who should preach there should be known and no one should stop him from preaching. If at any time you see someone saying this should be stopped, you should know he is your enemy and not your friend. The clergy should not exceed their limits, since exceeding the limits is not allowed in Islam. Each person should act within his own limits. This is my recommendation to you gentlemen present, and to all the armed forces, the ground force and all the garrisons in the country, because I have been told the clergy have been ill-treated. Whereas the clergy, wherever they are, ensure their support for you, the nation supports you. If the clergy are not there, people might raise certain matters which could undermine you in the eyes of the nation. The clergy should keep to their assignment and should not exceed their limits.

Those who are acting according to their assignments should not be stopped. If the clergy exceed their limits of authority, this should be reported and stopped.

In any case, I would like to see cohesion between you and the clergy, between you and the nation, and within yourselves--the armed forces. This cohesion can save the country. When you who are making sacrifices and have performed such a near miracle, when you see that all the nation is behind you and is thanking you, your morale will be boosted, but it will not be boosted if the nation does not respond to what you achieve. Under the shah's regime, if something was done, the nation would not oppose it, but it would not agree with it either. The nation would go its own way and would not have anything to do with these things. But, today, you see that the nation has a part in every affair. This is one of the characteristics of Islam, an Islamic country and an Islamic republic, where people are present on the scene and observe what is happening. You see that in this war you are fighting and making sacrifices; others are doing their part and making sacrifices and express their support. They are busy everywhere and agree that progress should be made. Even small children withdraw their savings and donate the money. This is unprecedented. This is because of Islam. I hope that Islam in its true sense will be implemented in Iran. If it is implemented, your victory will be ensured in every respect.

I once again praise your plans and your operations and the great deed you have done. I thank all the armed forces who are sacrificing and [word indistinct]. God willing, may all of you become successful, prosperous and victorious. [shouts of "God is great, Khomeyni is the leader"]

BANI-SADR MEETS WITH AIR RAID PILOTS 7 APR

GF080511 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] PARC has reported that the eight pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran who dealt destructive blows to the enemy during their latest courageous operation met yesterday afternoon with the president and commander in chief of the armed forces. They were accompanied by the air force commander. Imam Khomeyni's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, Dr Chamran, attended the meeting. President Bani-Sadr praised their efforts and called on them to treble them.

BANI-SADR APPOINTS ESHRAQI TO 3-MAN COMMITTEE

LD071310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, Mr Bani-Sadr has appointed Hojjat ol-Eslam Shahabeddin Eshraqi [Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's son-in-law] as his representative on the three-man committee charged with investigating differences [between Sani-Sadr and his political opponents]. The text of the president's letter [to Eshraqi] follows:

In His exalted name. Your Eminence Hojjat ol-Eslam Mr Eshraqi: United is the means of achieving the principles for which the revolution was carried out. Bearing in mind the serious dangers that threaten our Islamic revolution, we all have the primary and basic duty of insisting upon the implementation of the Constitution and the current laws and especially of continuously defending judicial freedom and security. Therefore, the three-man committee should itself not transgress the limits of the Constitution. I feel it important that the following principles are observed:

1. In my view, differences stem from the desire to transgress the limits of the law. It was proposed that this committee be formed to prevent violations of the law by officials and mutual incitements, and, according to the imam's statement, to bring them before the public because the views of the public set the standard.

2. Certain very serious and grave dangers exist. Our belief in freedom should be so firm that we defend all freedoms, especially the freedom of the press, at all costs. Therefore, if one or more newspapers revile me I do not advocate prosecuting them. I know, and our past experience is proof, that the suppression of the press is the first step in the establishment of dictatorship.

3. Many experiences, including the Indonesian experience, have taught us that one of the dangers to which we should be sensitive is the creation of action and reaction in the form of a coup d'etat and counter-coup d'etat. In Indonesia the military coup d'etat was carried out against the communist coup d'etat and created the present situation. Therefore, full attention should be paid to preventing terrorism and clubwielding, especially interference in the responsibilities of others or making use of individuals in order to gain positions of authority or the creation of authority.

4. In order to ensure that the people do not get the feeling that they are pushed out of the scene, as the imam has said, decisions should be openly and clearly explained to the public and should be placed at their disposal for their judgment. The great Iranian nation is passing through a sensitive period in its political life. The decisions that are made will be important in the present and future destiny of the country and they may even play a fateful role. Therefore, I beseech God Almighty to favor us with His grace and guide the decisions of the esteemed committee, in which you are to take part on my behalf.

[Signed] President and commander in chief of the armed forces, Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr

BANI-SADR, CHAMRAN, FALLAHI LEAVE FOR KHUZESTAN

LD071736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] According to PARS, the commander in chief of the armed forces, together with Mostafa Chamran, the imam's envoy at the Supreme Defense Council, and Brigadier General Fallahi, acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, left for Khuzestan Province this evening to visit and review the situation at the battlefronts.

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETS IN KHUZESTAN

LD072328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] The situation on the war fronts was discussed tonight at a meeting of the Supreme Council chaired by the commander in chief in one of the cities of Khuzestan Province. According to a PARS dispatch, this meeting was also attended by Brigadier General Fallahi, acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Mr Mostafa Chamran, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, and the commanders of the military forces deployed in the area. After reading the report on measures taken, the meeting discussed how to carry out the necessary plans aimed at throwing out the declining forces of the mercenary Iraqi Ba'thist army and how the army of Islam and the popular forces were confronting the Ba'thist mercenaries; the necessary decisions were reached.

RAJA'I APPOINTS LEGAL AFFAIRS, MAJLIS DEPUTY

LD071832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] According to PARS, (Ahmad Ashraf-Eslami) has been appointed the prime minister's deputy in charge of legal affairs and affairs related to the Majlis by a decree issued by the prime minister. The text of the decree is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother (Ahmad Ashraf-Eslami): By this decree you are appointed as the prime minister's deputy in legal affairs and affairs related to the Majlis. Meanwhile, by keeping your position, you are also appointed to supervise various departments in the Prime Ministry. It is hoped that you will employ all your talents and efforts in further strengthening the relationship between the government and the Majlis and the complete realization of an Islamic Prime Ministry.

[Signed] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister

RAJA'I ADDRESSES MUSLIMS ON AS-SADR ANNIVERSARY

GF080626 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text of message by Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i to world Muslims on the first anniversary of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr and his sister, Bint al-Huda--date, place not given, read by announcer]

[Text] In His exalted name. One year has elapsed since the martyrdom of the godly and Muslim scholar, Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, and his venerable sister at the hands of the criminal coterie of the Iraqi regime and the mercenaries of the U.S. agent infidel Saddam. The martyrdom of this great scholar and his sister in the prison of the bloody Iraqi regime is an indication of the malignity and malice that filthy Saddam reserves for Islam and Muslims. The daily crimes committed against the ranks of Iraqi thinkers, the shelling of residential areas in Iran, the usurpation of the rights of the Iraqi people and the imposition of the malicious regime on the destitute and oppressed angry Iraqi masses are the primary tasks of the criminal rulers in Iraq. The destitute Iraqi regime is now aware of the nature of the U.S. agent and people-hating regime. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran renews its pledge to continue its confrontation and resistance for the sake of achieving the Islamic goals and supporting the world's oppressed until the traces of the injustice and aggression of the world's proud powers are totally annihilated.

I extend condolences and congratulations to all Muslims on the anniversary of the martyrdom of the great Muslim scholar, Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, and I pray to God for the progress and might of Islam and the victory of Muslims.

ARDABILI ON TEHRAN UNIVERSITY INVESTIGATION

LD071822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Report by Ayatollah Musavi Ardabili, the public prosecutor general, on the judicial investigation into the 5 March Tehran University events--recorded]

[Excerpts] The Tehran University case at the moment is at this stage: Those who had any complaints have lodged them; those who had any documents brought them forward; those who had any information gave testimony, and those who wanted to bring any pressure on this case in the initial days; and in short meddle...and did...finally...[as heard] files on this case from this point of view have been completed, summarized. Now the judges have to arrive at a conclusion. They will start to prepare their indictment tomorrow.

In connection with the Tehran University incident it was said that 48 persons were arrested and handed over to the police, but that they were released on the orders of the Justice Ministry. This has an answer. Who were these 48 persons? Why were they released? Were they released legally? According to the law, they should have remained in detention, or they have been released unlawfully. Who were they? What were they saying? It has been said that one of them asserted that they are a force of 4,000 and are entrusted with the task of creating disorder everywhere. On whose instruction? Who is this person? Why did he say such a thing? In fact, did he assert such a thing or not? Was it a fact or not? These are questions discussed by society.

It has been said that there was, among other groups, a group called Guards of the President, who hit people in the crowd. There was another group collecting the wounded persons and handing them over to law enforcement officials. Then it was asserted that the president did not have any guards, that they were units of protection and that their numbers were very small. Fortunately, this question ranks among topics on which sufficient documents have been collected. Of course, there are other questions as well.

There are complaints against certain persons--against the president, Behzad Nabavi, Prime Minister Raja'i and others, against groups, against Mojahedin-e Khalq, feda'ian, against the Islamic Republican Party. Of course, not all on the same level; some have 30 complaints lodged against them, some only 1.

The judges have more or less concluded their tasks, and after preparing their indictments the cases will be referred to courts and magistrates. From the legal point of view, political and press offences require a jury and a jury was not created. In connection with these offences and press offences, we felt that a jury must be created. We contacted the Ministry of Guidance, it has made the necessary preparations, and, God willing, they have promised me that a jury will be formed by Wednesday. So from the court's point of view our problem--God willing--will be solved.

It looks now that following a short period of quiet during the holiday period, certain newspapers are restarting their provocations. This time, we had no choice but to immediately warn our brothers. We spoke to them, begged them to reconsider their action. Expression of view, constructive criticism and social and political debates are healthy and create no problems, but no reports against security and peace, against the rule of the law, reports creating political crisis, allegations, accusations, falsehood, provoking the public, disorder and opposition, fanning public [words indistinct] and groups' differences--legal and illegal, open opposition to the imam's order, and so forth. We issued our warnings in conjunction with the Justice Department. By prior arrangement, it had been decided to deal with them firmly according to the current press regulations, which we had from the past, which have been approved by the Supreme Revolution Council and which are currently on the Majlis agenda for ratification. According to this same law, they are to resume their work and stop such behavior. Both the imam and the majority of the nation want this.

Everyone should know that the trial will be held according to the indictment. Those who are familiar with the work of justice and judicial affairs know well [words indistinct].

Therefore, it is not possible for me to say exactly the time and the hour, but when we started work on the case we were promised that--God willing--the prosecutor's work would be concluded by 20 April. So far I have not been informed of any postponement. I think the work of the prosecutor's office, either regarding all or some cases, will be concluded by the end of this month.

MINISTRY ISSUES DIRECTIVES ON PRESS LICENSES

LD080814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Islamic Guidance]

Given that many press licenses are not legally valid for various reasons, including nonpublication over a long period of time, refusal to renew the license in accordance with the new press bill approved by the Islamic Revolution Council and other instances, all managers of publishing houses and newspaper directors throughout the country are hereby requested to heed the following points:

1. Publishing houses are permitted to print only those newspapers for which they possess a written letter from the Ministry of Islamic Guidance confirming the validity of their licenses.
2. Press license holders can obtain these confirmation letters from the press and publication office of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance in Tehran or from the Islamic guidance offices of each province.
3. In view of Article 1 of the circular issued by the special press tribunal on full observance of Article 12 of the press law, it is stressed that the content of this article must be implemented both by the press and the publishing houses.

JUSTICE MINISTRY BANS PUBLICATION OF MIZAN

LD080902 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] PARS reports that the Ministry of Justice has stated in connection with the closure of MIZAN newspaper and the arrest of the person responsible for it that the newspaper was ordered closed and its publication banned because it published articles detrimental to the social order. The Justice Ministry Public Relations Office, in an interview regarding the MIZAN article, made the following available about the arrest of Reza Sadr to PARS on the basis of information supplied by the special investigating magistrate dealing with press offenses:

Since MIZAN No 163 of 7 April has raised certain issues relating to the arrest of Reza Sadr, and since a major portion of these issues are untrue, it is liable for prosecution for distorting the truth, propagating lies and interfering in the power of the judiciary. Some aspects of these are as follows:

1. Accusations levelled against Reza Sadr are not solely limited to the matters raised in the paper, and comment will be made in due course regarding all the accusations against him in accordance with regulations.
2. The article, "How We Can Prevent the Supreme Court From being Weakened," is neither raised in his dossier nor has he been investigated in this regard. The matters elaborated in the newspaper's editorial in this regard are utter lies. On the basis of this untrue claim, efforts are being made to divert public opinion away from the main accusation and thus bring about an unhealthy atmosphere. So the offender is being legally prosecuted.
3. Because of the publication of material and articles detrimental to the social order, MIZAN has been ordered closed and its publication banned.

[Signed] Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Justice of the Islamic Republic

Ardabili on Closure

LD080826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Musavi Ardabili, in an exclusive interview with PARS, has said: We are doing our utmost to establish the rule of law across the country without delay so that we will not have any problem in this regard next year.

Regarding the closure of MIZAN newspaper, the state prosecutor general said: It was decided that issues that cause provocation throughout society should not be raised, that we should try to end differences and that we should strive to eliminate the country's political crisis. Thus, in accordance with the special investigating magistrate dealing with the press, and in light of the complaints received, MIZAN newspaper was ordered closed because its articles were liable to cause tension in society.

AFP: MIZAN To Defy Closure

NC071544 Paris AFP in English 1536 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Tehran, 7 Apr (AFP)--The liberal daily newspaper MIZAN, whose publisher is in jail, was banned by the authorities today--but the editorial staff have said they will defy the ruling.

Today's issue of MIZAN, the last before the ban came into force, said that Mr Sadr [publisher of MIZAN who was arrested 7 April] had refused to allow anyone to stand bail, set at 5,000,000 rials (about 60,000 dollars).

The newspaper front-paged three articles which it said caused his arrest. One called for the resignation of Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti from the presidency of the Supreme Court on grounds that this conflicted with his position as secretary general of the clergy-dominated Islamic Republican Party (IRP), which in turn dominates parliament.

The management member now in charge of MIZAN told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he had telephoned Mr Sadr at Tehran's Qasr Prison and Mr Sadr had instructed him: "Resist."

MIZAN's 120 staff would come to work tomorrow as usual, the manager said, for they considered Mr Sadr's arrest and the ban as illegal.

They also rejected official charges that they were "in contradiction" with the line of religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Management and staff had sent protest telegrams to the authorities demanding Mr Sadr's release and authorisation to continue publishing, the manager said.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 461 ON 5-6 APR OPERATIONS

LD071835 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Communique 461 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Part of the measures and operations by Islam's glorious army in the war against the Saddam at-Tikriti regime's justice-fighting infidels and a report on the battlefield situation on 5 and 6 April 1981 are hereby announced for the benefit of Iran's Muslim nation:

A. 5 April operations:

1. On the Dezful front the artillery of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by opening fire on enemy tanks and artillery, stopped Iraqi movements in that region. During these operations 1 enemy personnel carrier, 2 trucks and 1 ammunition tent were destroyed and 10 enemy servicemen were either killed or wounded.
2. On the Mahshahr-Abadan axis exchange of fire between our combatants and Saddam's servicemen continued and, thanks to our forces' firepower superiority, one enemy mortar launcher, one ammunition dump, two vehicles and a number of mercenaries were destroyed.
3. On the Ahvaz front our forces, by opening fire on enemy positions damaged one enemy tank and one personnel carrier and brought their movements to a halt. In the meantime, a number of enemy tank crews were killed during these operations.

4. On the Darkhovin front elements of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by opening artillery fire, utterly destroyed three enemy artillery pieces together with their crews.

5. On the country's western fronts exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued. On the Malekshahi heights enemy forces were subjected to intense fire by the combatants of Islam and the enemy suffered heavy losses and casualties.

6. Four raiding Iraqi aircraft which violated the airspace of several cities in the western parts of the country were forced to leave our country's airspace thanks to our ground-to-air defensive fire.

B. 6 April operations:

1. On the afternoon of 6 April, during an exchange of fire between our heroes and enemy servicemen on the Abadan front, several Iraqi personnel were wounded and a number were killed. Our combatant forces during these operations opened fire on the positions of the Iraqi Army servicemen and set ablaze and destroyed a building quartering Saddam's troops in the Saybah region in Iraq.

2. On the Dezful front, thanks to the heroic efforts of the combatant units of Islam's army and the opening of artillery fire, the movement and relocation of two enemy motorized columns were prevented. During these operations the intensity of our fire was such that the said columns were utterly routed after suffering appreciable losses and casualties.

3. As a result of fire opened by the fighting forces of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions in the Al-Faw region, one enemy ammunition dump, one mortar-launching emplacement, several trenches and a number of Iraqi servicemen were destroyed.

4. On the Ahvaz front, thanks to fire opened by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 6 enemy cannons and 5 Iraqi Army vehicles were destroyed and 80 aggressor troops were either killed or wounded.

5. In the Kan-e Sakht region a fierce battle took place between our forces and those of the enemy. Fortunately, during this clash our combatants suffered no losses, but one assembly point and one foxhole of the enemies of Islam were destroyed and a number of their servicemen killed.

6. On 6 April on the country's southern and western battlefronts five of the loyal trench troops of Islam belonging to the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred and found their eternal resting place in Heaven. May their souls be happy!

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

REVOLUTION GUARDS CORPS ISSUES STATEMENT ON UNITY

LD051112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 5 Apr 81

[Text] In connection with the 1 April message of the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and following the meeting held by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Command Council, the Public Relations Office of the corps has released a statement in which the guards corps' obedience to the authority of clerical rule [velayat-e faqih] is referred to and the Iranian nation is informed that brothers and members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps wear a uniform with special markings and that they carry identity cards and, in the case of carrying out an order, they carry warrants. The public, all organizations, institutions and bureaus are asked to lodge any complaints against the guards corps with the corps' prosecutor.

The statement also asks brothers and members of the corps to do their best to avoid interfering in affairs, for the sake of promoting the organizations of the Islamic Republic in various fields and creating essential coordination. Our dear compatriots are requested to help these sons of the nation in their coordination tasks on the path to promoting unity of word.

GUARDS CORPS REPORTS RECENT BATTLE SUCCESSES

LD052144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Apr 81

[Summary] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in a statement, reports figures of its successes over the past 2 days on the western and southern fronts, according to PARS.

In the Darkhovin region one Iraqi tank, one ground-to-air gun and one mortar were destroyed and six Iraqi troops were killed.

On the Ahvaz front, 2 Iraqi troop carriers and 3 trenches were destroyed and more than 20 Iraqis were killed. Also, four Iraqi soldiers defected to the Iranian side.

On the western fronts, one enemy machinegun nest and eight trenches were destroyed along with their personnel in the Ilam region.

In the Eslamabad region "a large number of infidel Iraqi Ba'thists were killed or injured."

On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab front one Iraqi ammunition dump was destroyed. In the Rijab region nine Iraqis were killed and wounded in a commando clash, with one Iranian being wounded.

Three villages on the Dehgalan-Kamyaran axis were purged of "counterrevolutionary elements." Two of the "insurgents" were killed and several arrested.

GUARDS CORPS ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON OPERATIONS

LD071850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Communique issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] Here is a report on some of the operations carried out by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps over the past 2 days:

On the western fronts:

1. In the Rijab area, with the occupation of Qal'eh-ye Kuchenareh, the Iraqi Ba'thists lost a strategic hill which came under the control of our guardsmen. In the course of these operations 1 enemy tank, 1 ammunition tent and 1 vehicle belonging to the infidels were destroyed and more than 20 of their men were killed. In the same area, thanks to artillery fire by our army brothers, three enemy tanks, four Zil vehicles, one command jeep and one artillery piece belonging to the aggressive enemy were utterly destroyed.

2. On the Sumar front, too, a patrol group of Islam's self-sacrificing combatants, after carrying out a guerrilla attack on an Iraqi mercenary infidel assembly point, destroyed several of their trenches and 19 of their servicemen were either killed or wounded. After our brothers' attack Saddam's cowardly mercenaries fled from the battlefield and suffered the ignominy of leaving their weapons behind. As a result, three of Saddam's tanks were captured intact by our corpsmen.

3. On the Gilan-e Charb front, thanks to mining operations of the heroes of the guards corps along the enemy's supply highway behind the frontlines of Saddam's infidels, one Zil vehicle carrying ammunition and one enemy personnel carrier together with its servicemen were destroyed. On this front, thanks to mortar fire by our brothers, 5 enemy trenches were destroyed and 20 aggressors were either killed or wounded.

4. Once again on the Dehloran front, guarded by our brother guards with their blood, thanks to infiltration by our self-sacrificing brother guards into Iraqi territory, several enemy trenches and foxholes were destroyed and more than 25 of their servicemen were either killed or wounded. During these operations one enemy antiaircraft gun and one 75-mm machinegun position were utterly destroyed and, thanks be to God, all our brothers returned safely to base.

On the southern front:

Ahvaz: Thanks to mortar fire by the heroes of the guards corps in the Darkhovin region, one enemy tank and one truck were destroyed and a number of Saddam's troops were either killed or wounded. Accurate figures will be released later. In the meantime, four of Saddam's army dupes, who realized the criminal nature of his regime, gave themselves up to our heroic brothers.

RADIO IRAN REPORTS ON DOMESTIC ISSUES, RESISTANCE

Commentary on Future

NC031859 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Usually at the beginning of spring the past year's report card is studied. But in this new year we want to break with this ancient tradition and to speak to you, Oh compatriots, about the year ahead--a year that is expected to be the most important and most sensitive year of our lives, a year in which we can bid farewell to the homeland, to religion and to everything Iranian and a year in which unity can be made stronger, religion more wise and, in short, a year in which Iran can become everlasting.

The enemy and enemies are lying in ambush. There is plot after plot. Iran, this cradle of Asian civilization, can continue its long-lasting life and can be partitioned into bits and pieces. Each corner of it can be robbed by a demon and each part of it can have a different name. Without any exaggeration, the enemy is lying in ambush and our territory is (?very inviting).

Each plunderer wants part of this territory and each one, in his own (?demagogic) way, has prepared his hands to render the last blow. They want to destroy our national identity. They want to destroy our culture, our knowledge [words indistinct] and have hired a group of mercenaries of the basest kind to do so.

Only our vigilance can preserve Iran, this holiest (?gift) of God. Therefore, be vigilant. Do not surrender to each and every sorcerer's murmur. The world is large and full of deceit. Render all this deceit futile. Render a blow, with all your might, to the heart of the enemy.

Neither this one nor that one; neither the one who comes from the East nor the one who comes from the West. Neither one is with you. They want themselves. Throw them and their servants out of your home. Listen only to the voice of an Iranian, a noble Iranian, a brave Iranian who curses lies and who praises purity, who worships a God and who seeks grandeur and pride for his country.

Qom Mosque Explosions

NC041658 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 4 Apr 81

[Text] At noon yesterday two strong bombs exploded 5 minutes apart at Qom's A'zam Mosque. These explosions occurred while Mullah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri and a group of hezbollahis were gathered at the mosque for Friday prayers. Eyewitnesses said that as a result of the explosions, at least 40 people were seriously injured.

This is not the first time that bombs have been planted in places where Friday prayers were being held in various cities.

Up to now, none of the groups opposing the dictatorship of the sheykhs has taken responsibility for the bombings.

Qom Mosque Casualties

NC050812 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1805 GMT 4 Apr 81

[Text] Following the explosion of two strong bombs in Qom on Friday, on the eve of mass prayers led by Ayatollah Montazeri, strugglers of national resistance groups in Iran undertook the responsibility for these explosions.

Government officials have not yet issued exact figures on the number of dead and injured, but it is said that 49 people were injured in the Qom incidents; some of them are in critical condition. Among the injured are a number of Ayatollah Montazeri's armed men.

The infiltration of national resistance forces into the regime's centers of power has caused great fear among officials of the Islamic Republic. During the first 14 days of the New Year this is the third effective blow rendered by national resistance movements in Iran against the regime.

Efforts Against Opposition

NC031850 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Report by Radio Iran's correspondent in New York]

[Text] On the eve of the anniversary of the so-called Islamic Republic and when the majority of Iranian people have raised their voices against this black republic, Khomeyni and his associates are speaking of the rule of law and the establishment of order and calm as well as trying to decrease all the dissatisfaction, rage and aversion that has overtaken the Iranian nation.

Now Khomeyni's hirelings in most parts of the United States are in contact with capitalists and even serious opponents of the regime. His hirelings have promised them assistance and cooperation and have said that if they return to Iran, they will be safe from any type of (?aggression). This is not the first time that hirelings of Khomeyni's bloody republic have carried out extensive efforts to prevent the escalation of opposition. Some months ago more than \$10 million were (?distributed among) a number of Iranian-language newspapers published in the United States and at present efforts to silence the regime's opponents are continuing. Before this, groups affiliated to the Islamic government had tried, by sending threatening letters and making threatening phone calls, to dissuade opponents from the path they had chosen, but because of their failure in achieving anything they have once again started trying to bribe them.

An informed source in Washington has said that Khomeyni's men are trying to feign that the Reagan administration has reached full agreement in all fields with the Islamic Republic and that it is supporting the mullahs.

To prove this, they first point at the lifting of Carter's economic boycott and then at the issuing of visas to Iranians going to the United States. Even though using such methods are simple and commonplace for a regime that does not rely on the people, it nevertheless seems that Khomeyni's propagandists and footmen have forgotten one fact, that is, the aversion which the majority of Iranian people show toward the rule of the religious sectarians.

Actually, it is the Iranian nation that determines its destiny and its future. The nation clarified its position vis-a-vis these politically (?disgraced) people a long time ago. Khomeyni's lie-churning and disseminating machinery is trying in vain because when the interests of a nation are in question, one cannot be bought easily. Actually, these base traitors have [words indistinct].

Baluchi-Guards Clashes

NC031615 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Text] Baluchi strugglers have killed 12 revolution guards and taken another 9 captive on the Zahedan-Irانشahr road. Reports from Baluchestan state that on the afternoon of 26 March a group of Baluchi patriots and freedom-fighters attacked a column of Khomeyni's mercenary guards 17 km outside of Irانشahr and in 15 minutes they killed 12 of these criminal robbers and arrested and imprisoned 9 others who had laid down their arms. The Baluchi strugglers did not suffer any losses in this successful attack.

According to another report from Chah Bahar, as a result of continuous and successful attacks by Baluchi freedom-fighters and patriots against the piratical revolution guards on the road linking Sarbaz and Zahedan, for the past few days all movements by the revolution guards on this road have been made with an armored escort and, fearing the people, Khomeyni's supporters travel in armored vehicles on these roads.

However, despite the use of heavy artillery and armored vehicles, on 27 March on the road from Sarbaz to Zahedan, Baluchi combatants attacked a column of Khomeyni's crushing forces and completely destroyed it. The destroyed vehicles and jeeps of the revolution guards can be seen on this road.

4 Apr Guards, Kurds Clashes

NC071703 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] More than 50 of the revolution guards who had raided villages in Owraman area on Saturday 4 April to rob them were killed and a large number injured by peshmerga of the (?Rastgari) Party. By taking the old men and women of Kamaleh village, the criminal guards forced the people of the village to carry the injured guards on their backs to their posts.

The reports indicate that the clash between the (?Rastgari) peshmerga and revolution guards in Owraman continues.

Guards Clash With Boyer Ahmadi

NC071719 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] Following the revolution guards attack against the Qashqa'is, reports have been received from Dow Gonbadan that on Sunday, 5 April, a strong clash took place between Boyer Ahmadi braves and revolution guards. The clash, which took place near an area known as (Tang-e Pir-e Zal), broke out when the pillaging guards stopped a migrating caravan of Boyer Ahmadi on the pretext of searching for weapons and started inspecting their items and creating trouble.

The tribe's leaders who were present at the scene tried to explain to the guards that even if arms were found on the Boyer Ahmadi, they had been purchased in keeping with Ayatollah Khomeyni's special decree from Neauphle-le-Chateau on tribal purchases of arms. Many of the Boyer Ahmadi had sold some of their livestock to buy rifles at very high prices. But the revolution guards did not pay any attention to these explanations and continued bothering the tribesmen, treating them harshly and disgracing them. As a result a strong clash broke out between them and tribal youths. The clash, which continued for more than a hour, resulted in the death of nine guards; another 14 guards were seriously injured and the others fled.

Following these clashes, the Boyer Ahmadi tribe has sped up its migration and is trying to reach cold regions as soon as possible.

Informed observers say that this act by the revolution guards is to instigate southern tribes and create clashes with them, and that all these are part of a plot engineered by the rule of the clergy to light the flame of war in the south. These observers believe that Khomeyni's regime intends to thus create the grounds for completely crushing the tribes.

The Boyer Ahmadi are among our noble compatriots who have a bright record in Iran's history and have always fought to defend Iran's independence and freedom. The courage of the Boyer Ahmadi fighters in south Iran is very famous.

Palestinian Guards Executed

NC031652 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Text] Two Palestinian guerrillas named Muhammad (Fu'ad) and Nayif Muhammad have been executed by firing squad in Tehran. These two, who were members of Khomeyni's bodyguard, intended to murder him.

Western information services report that they were Iraqi agents who joined Khomeyni's guard with the intention of assassinating him. But the Syrian spy agency prevented the incident by informing the mullahs.

These two Palestinians were accepted as members of Khomeyni's guard on the recommendation of a former Fatah representative in Tehran, Hani al-Hasan.

Following their execution, Abu Jihad, the Fatah military commander, strongly condemned the incident and officially gave his support to Iraq in the war against Iran. In a statement he issued, Abu Jihad called the Iran-Iraq war an Arab national war and called on all [word indistinct] to place all the necessary assistance at Iraq's disposal.

The execution of Muhammad (Fu'ad) and Nayif Muhammad once again proves that the guards protecting Khomeyni are Palestinian terrorists and that the mullah does not consider even the revolution guards or the hezbollahis sufficiently trustworthy; the Palestinian terrorists are trusted more.

Tehran Student Murdered

NC031648 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Text] A revolution guard who had been sent to Tehran's Iranzamin School by the ruling clergy to teach has pitilessly murdered one of the school's outstanding students. The murderer has a criminal record and was in prison before 11 February 1978. After this date, thanks to the hooligans ruling Iran, he joined the revolution guards corps and went so far as to achieve the lofty position of a teacher.

The murdered student was a 12-year-old fifth grader. This child had allegedly protested the presence of revolution guards in the school and in reply to his protest, Khomeyni's "Islamic" guard beat the student's head in with a stone, murdering the child in an extremely atrocious way.

It is still not clear whether or not this guard of the "Islamic revolution" has been prosecuted by Khomeyni's shar' magistrates.

Crimes Against Tribes Scored

NC071836 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear compatriots! As we informed you about 2 weeks ago, the murderous revolution guards corps, the armed flank of Khomeyni's sedition, massacred a group of Qashqa'i women and children 3 km from Farrashband of Kazerun according to a preplanned program and in an extremely dastardly way. The treacherous hirelings of the clerical rule, who claim to be the hoisters of the banner of Islam, flooded these people with the rain of lead and mortars. What was the goal of these bloodthirsty beasts in preparing and carrying out such a savage act? Undoubtedly they claim that, like all the other inhuman crimes they have committed up to now, this also was toward the expansion of justice and right and guarding of Islam. But who is left to be affected by the demagogies and fabrications of these charlatans?

Compatriots! Two weeks ago following the clash between the criminal revolution guards and fighters of the Qashqa'i tribe, you were informed by us that in the very first hours of the clash--and because of the readiness of the armed Qashqa'i men--more than 50 of the revolution guards, despite the various arms and ammunition they had at their disposal, were killed and a large number wounded by the Qashqa'i's defenders. But as you were informed in today's news reports, more than 10 days of reliable reports indicate that the subject is more profound. On the basis of what has been revealed now, the anti-Iranian regime of Khomeyni--on which the shadow of death has fallen, and which considers the Iranian nationalists and patriots, including the tribes, as its true enemies--had prepared for this dastardly attack months ago. Khomeyni's regime, which almost from the beginning has been at war in all parts of the country with Iran's tribes and nations, has repeatedly clashed in (?Bam), Esfahan, Kohkiluyeh and Lorestan with the southern tribes, including the Qashqa'i's, the Bakhtiaris, the Boyer Ahmadi's and the Mamasanis, and has committed crimes against them. Khomeyni's rule, pursuing the goal of crushing the Iran-loving braves and fighters of the southern tribes, has repeatedly attempted to mobilize and arm its mercenary and deceived troops. But each time it has met with a defeat more disgraceful than the one before.

The attack on the Qashqa'i tribe and its subsequent, disgraceful defeat is only one more black page in Khomeyni's report card. After losing their hopes in employing the leaders of the tribe and being at a loss in front of the occasional uprisings of tribal fighters, Khomeyni's treacherous officials think of striking at an opportune moment--in other words, when the tribe is migrating--and attacking it midway and massacring its leaders and fighters. Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Beheshti, the engineers of this criminal attempt, employed mercenaries, traitors and deceived people and (?sent) more than 2,000 revolution guards armed with heavy arms to Farrashband of Kazerun. The opportune moment for the criminals came. They attacked the tribe with mortars and killed many women and children. But the sinister plan and goal of the invaders of the Islamic Republic not only was not fulfilled, but, as it was reported today, because of the readiness and courageousness and devotion of the tribe, more than 50 of the regime's mercenaries were killed. The others, after 3 days of war, left (?various) quantities of arms and ammunition behind them in the area of conflict.

What the Qashqa'i fighters showed to Khomeyni's inhuman regime despite the calamity they suffered was not the first bitter lesson learned by the rule of the mullahs and its revolution guards from the Iranian patriots, nor will it be the last. The tribes of southern Iran, like the rest of their compatriots, have understood the antipeople nature of Khomeyni's rule and will not stop their struggles until its overthrow and the homeland's freedom. These fighters and brave people have always defended Iran's borders from foreign invasion, resisted the infiltrator or colonialists and sacrificed their noble lives for this. The Qashqa'is, next to the Boyer Ahmadis, the Bakhtiaris, the Mamasanis and other tribes, realized the nature of Khomeyni's regime from the very start. They have almost never (?been reduced completely to captivity by the false resistance ruling the cities), and today, now that the facts have been revealed to all, they see the need to insist on carrying out the duty for the homeland's freedom. Let it be that in the near future, the bullets that are fired from the guns of the Qashqa'is, the Bakhtiaris, the Boyer Ahmadis, the Mamasanis, the Baluchis and the other devoted tribes of Iran and that pierce the chests of the anti-Iranian traitors herald the freedom of Iran and the Iranians.

FREE VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ON OWRAMAN CLASHES

NC071704 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] A total of 50 revolution guards were killed by Kurdish peshmerga near Owraman. According to a report sent by a Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Kordestan, the strong clash between the Kurdish strugglers and Khomeyni's revolution guards broke out on Saturday and during these clashes the revolution guards, who suffered 50 deaths and a number of injuries, retreated from their positions.

The report states that the clashes broke out when the revolution guards attacked villages around Owraman. Following their defeat the [word indistinct] revolution guards went to Kamaleh village in Owraman, and, in order to force the inhabitants to cooperate in transferring their injured men, took the old (?and defenseless) men as hostages.

Our correspondent reports that the brave Kurdish fighters confiscated a number of heavy arms from the revolution guards and took a number of guards as captives. According to the same report, after (?transferring) their injured men, the revolution guards started the combat with the Kurdish fighters once again and (?are trying) to break the seige and to flee [words indistinct].

According to the latest reports, Khomeyni's revolution guards who suffered many deaths and lost many arms in the attack are now facing a shortage of arms and ammunition. The Kurdish peshmerga have declared to Khomeyni's mercenary guards, among whom are a number of Kurdish traitors, that they will be (?allowed to retreat) only if they free the old men of Kamaleh village.

Some world agencies, as well as French television, have published reports on the clash and, quoting the [word indistinct] news agency of the Tehran regime, have described the Kurdish fighters as counterrevolutionaries, while reports received call them the (?Rastgari) guerrilla group [words indistinct].

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ON RESISTANCE TO REGIME

Liberation Army Declaration

GF071323 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] The Iranian liberation army has announced military cooperation with other militant national organizations against the invader regime of Tehran.

The Iranian liberation army announced this in the latest issue of the newspaper ARA, organ of the army. It also declared its seven-point strategic position as follows:

1. Liberation of the great homeland by means of armed insurgency from the unlawful and reactionary regime of Ruhollah Khomeyni.
2. Political struggle for the establishment of a modern democratic, anti-imperialist and antiexploitation system based on national culture and traditions.
3. Effort to restore the holy status of Islam and merciless crushing of religious fanatics who are using Islam to implement their antinationalist and reactionary policies.
4. Struggle to restore and guarantee all ideological and political rights.
5. Support for all ethnic and religious minorities within the framework of national integrity.
6. Defense of the Iranian culture and history from the aggressions of the unlawful and uncultured regime of [word indistinct].
7. Unconditional cooperation with internal and external national opposition groups.

The liberation army, the first military-political organization to wage unrelenting struggle against Ayatollah Khomeyni's regime, asked all organizations to establish unity and thereby hasten Iran's liberation.

New Antiregime Group

NC031951 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1805 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Summary] Another "national and antiregime group" has announced its formation in Iran. A copy of the group's first communique, which has been secretly distributed in Tehran and other towns over the past few days, has reached us. "The group has named itself the Guardians of Iran's Civilization [Pasdaran-e Tamaddon-e Iran]" and in its communique it warns the leaders of the Tehran regime and declares the decision of its members to struggle against the Islamic Republic.

21 Executed After Uprising

GF061313 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 0330 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] It has been revealed in Tehran that the 21 persons executed on the eve of the Islamic Republic's anniversary on the charge of trafficking in narcotics were previously arrested on political charges and transferred to Tehran. Well-informed sources said that the 21, 14 men and 7 women, were arrested in Bandar-e 'Abbas following an unsuccessful uprising 15 days ago in that city. They were charged with participating in the uprising and were imprisoned in Tehran.

It is said that for the past 2 months there has been unrest among the people of the southern ports of the country protesting against the Tehran regime. On several occasions demonstrations have been held and piers were set on fire. The southern ports of Iran that were well known 10 years ago as centers of work and economic progress are deserted and in ruins due to increased unemployment and the slump in economic activity.

VOICE OF IRAN ON SEARCH OF SOVIET DIPLOMATIC POUCH

GF061300 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] We have been informed that an argument took place in Mehrabad Airport between a representative of the Soviet Embassy and airport authorities several days ago when a Soviet diplomatic pouch was opened. Although this report has not been published as yet, we have been informed that the embassy lodged an official complaint with the Foreign Ministry. The event took place when one of the commanders of the Tehran guards corps stationed at Mehrabad Airport ordered the diplomatic pouch opened prior to delivery to the Soviet Embassy representative. Following a search of the contents, a large number of documents directly marked for Dr Kianuri and Messrs Amoli and Behzadi of the Tudeh Party were scrutinized. The pouch was then handed over to the embassy representative.

NVOI ASSAILS HAIG VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST STATES

TA071520 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary: "A Few Words on The Visit of Mr Haig to Our Region"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The U.S. secretary of state has started his visit to the countries of the Near East in Egypt. This representative of world-devouring U.S. imperialist bellicose circles has begun his first visit to our region so as to implement the expansionist plans of world-devouring U.S. imperialism at the hands of the leaders of the region's dependent and mercenary regimes.

Informed regional sources assess the goal of Mr Haig's trip as a link in a series of U.S. imperialism's plans for a new offensive to establish and expand its military bases in the region and to strengthen the plunderous positions of the plundering U.S. monopolies. This is a realistic view. It is no secret to anyone that, because of the climax of the struggles of the region's peoples, and especially the victories of the Iranian nation's glorious revolution and the revolution of the Afghan people, the ground is burning under the feet of world-devouring U.S. imperialism and its dependent and mercenary regimes such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan and others. Imperialism and its regional mercenaries are losing certain positions everyday, and now the Reagan administration has dispatched Mr Haig to this region in order to seek ways to relieve this situation.

According to what is known, U.S. authorities believe that this goal, or in other words, the prevention of the development and continuity of the region's freedom-seeking and anti-imperialist movements, can only be achieved by intensifying and expanding U.S. imperialism's regional military presence and by undertaking the role of regional gendarme. It is in connection with this satanic goal that U.S. imperialism, while pretending to safeguard the security of this region and under the excuse that the affairs of this region should be settled by the governments of the region itself, as dispatched a flood of arms and military equipment to mercenary regimes such as those of King Khalid and Ziaul Haq. It has also escalated its military preparations in the region by encircling the region with a network of military bases. Despite the wish and inclination of the world's nations and the struggles of the people of the region, U.S. imperialism has concentrated a large naval force, including aircraft and helicopter carriers, and reconnaissance and fighter aircraft, in our region and is fortifying its large war base at Diego Garcia. In order to station Rapid Deployment Forces in the region, it is widely taking advantage of military bases in parts of Oman, Somalia, Egypt and Kenya. All these activities of U.S. imperialism should be conceived as a declaration of war against the nations of this region who no longer want to endure the domination of U.S. imperialism.

It is quite obvious that the sharp edge of these conspiratorial and provocative measures of U.S. imperialism is aimed at the liberated nations of the region, and above all the heroic Iranian nation and Afghanistan, where the victory of the revolution in these two countries has inflicted fatal and back-breaking blows on rabid U.S. imperialism. Obviously, the Americans do not want to yield to the verdict of time and to the wish of nations regarding the expulsion of imperialist domination, and therefore U.S. imperialist circles are constantly searching for ways to revive their lost positions in one way or another, especially in our country, and to prevent the further disintegration of their positions in other countries of the region. The trip by Mr Haig, the Reagan administration's secretary of state, to the countries of our region is also connected with this satanic goal of U.S. imperialism.

By taking into consideration this fact and that the main goal of U.S. imperialism is to inflict blows on the Iranian revolution, it is the duty of the people of our country to intensify their struggles against U.S. imperialism. It is incumbent upon the leaders of our country to be heedful of the overt and covert plots of U.S. imperialism with revolutionary awareness, to inform the people of all the details of Mr Haig's trip and to mobilize and equip the nation's power in the struggle against imperialism, and especially U.S. imperialism. It is incumbent upon the leaders of our country to be aware of the depth of the danger of U.S. imperialism's plots, and exert their efforts for rapprochement as much as possible with the progressive governments of the region, including democratic Afghanistan, and to arise and confront along with all the progressive and combatant governments and nations the plots of the imperialists, and above all U.S. imperialism, in a united anti-imperialist front. It is only in such a way that, according to Imam Khomeyni, world-devouring U.S. imperialism will be unable to do a damn thing.

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

4 Apr Commentary

TA042025 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 4 April carried a commentary entitled: "The Existence of Two Fronts, Two Goals, Is a Fact." It said that recently, among imperialist circles, especially American, the talk is over preparing the ground for bringing a so-called moderate and middle-of-the-road government to power in Iran. Under such conditions, the recognition of elements able to pave the way for the materialization of such a counterrevolutionary and imperialist plan, as well as forces that are able to defend the popular and anti-imperialist line of the imam against the former forces, is a necessary and vital issue. Fortunately, during recent months many groups dependent on big capitalists and plunderous feudalists have been unmasked and the front following the imam's path has been distinguished from the front wishing the destruction of the revolution and reconciliation with the West. Thus, the parties and forces true to the revolution and revolutionary religious figures should determine their position in this fate-building struggle. There is no doubt that the struggling clergy led by the imam will play a major role in the struggle against imperialism and counterrevolution. It is not without cause that the counterrevolutionaries and persons seeking reconciliation have placed this stratum of the clergy as the target of their attacks. These elements resort to any kind of struggles for advancing their goals, among which can be mentioned Brzezinski's allegations about a "communist danger," or resorting to blackmail and slander. Thus, the true followers of the imam's line, especially the revolutionary clergy, carry an important duty in the face of all the duping uproar of counterrevolution.

Those who under the pretext of Islam create problems, who trample the laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran and who by pretending to follow the imam's line create dissatisfaction are the foes of the revolution and of the imam's line. The imam has rightly said that he does not agree with anyone who calls himself clergyman, adding that when a clergyman acts against holiness and is a plotter, it is worse than anything else.

These narrow-minded elements who pretend to be clergymen are active in all the revolutionary institutions. As the imam has recommended, all the revolutionary institutions should be purged from their existence and put to blind fanaticism and monopoly-seeking.

5 Apr Commentary

TA052021 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 5 Apr carried a commentary entitled: "Supporting the Afghan Counter-revolutionaries Is Tantamount to Placing Oneself on the Same Line as Reagan." It stated that recently President Reagan officially announced that the U.S. Government, in order to struggle against the legal Government of Afghanistan, will put arms and military equipment at the disposal of the so-called Islamic mojahedin--the Afghan fugitive counterrevolutionaries. The publication of this report has been a cause for deliberation for every true Muslim patriot in our country, asking why these murderous bands supported by Mr Reagan should enjoy the support of the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We have often said, and the people have demanded, that these so-called Afghan Islamic mojahedin who, as with the former regime's supporters, fled their country from fear of the nation and have now been given haven in Pakistan and the northeastern part of our country, be expelled.

Unfortunately, we observe that there are some persons in our country who either knowingly or unknowingly, while cowardly exploiting the Islamic feelings of our Muslim people, are continuing a hostile policy against democratic Afghanistan. The excuse used by these people for resorting to such a policy is that these murderers have put the label of Islam on their American organizations and it is allegedly for Islam that they commit mass murder against the people of Afghanistan. Whereas there are many documents and witnesses proving that these bandits who smuggle drugs, money and arms and organize contact between Iranian counterrevolutionaries and the CIA, Mossad and Chinese agents are equipped with U.S. Chinese and British arms and infiltrate into Afghanistan to create disturbances, it is regrettable that these U.S. imperialist mercenaries are supported by some authorities in our country who consider aiding these bandits an Islamic duty.

The people cannot but protest against the fact that the authorities in our country support U.S. imperialism's mercenaries--while our nation is struggling against U.S. imperialism--as well as protest against the fact that the authorities are participating, alongside the United States, in the undeclared war waged against the people and Government of the DRA. The people justly demand that the government reconsider its policy and stance regarding Afghanistan for eliminating differences and establishing friendly relations.

Revolutionary Iran and democratic Afghanistan have one common foe--U.S. imperialism--which is exerting efforts to hinder these two liberated countries from establishing friendship and unity. The authorities of our country should view this fact realistically and, regarding our Muslim neighbor, Afghanistan, follow a path that is in accord with the interests of our nation and revolution. The interests of the Iranian people dictate that problems of discord with democratic Pakistan [as heard] be solved through negotiations and the ground work begun for friendly and neighborly relations.

6 Apr Commentary

TA062036 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 6 April carried a commentary entitled: "The Inauspicious Role of Stooze Regimes of the Oil Cartel in Our Region." It said: Ayatollah Montazeri, during one of the Friday prayers meetings, while addressing the Arab leaders of our region, justly said that the oil monopolies are equipping Israel with the latest military weapons by exploiting and plundering the oil wealth of these countries. Countries such as Saudi Arabia, Bahrain or the United Arab Emirates have not only put the fate of their oil resources at the disposal of the plundering oil cartel, but deposit all their oil revenues in safe deposit boxes of U.S. or Western banks.

The oil cartel, hand in hand with big U.S. arms manufacturing plants, have clutched the petrodollars of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain or the UAE. It is the managers of these companies who on the one hand plunder the oil of these countries and on the other annually put weapons worth billions of dollars at the disposal of these regimes. The use of these weapons is totally under the supervision of thousands of U.S. advisors who practically control the affairs of the armed forces in these countries.

Military and Zionist U.S. circles, in order to clutch oil resources or petrodollars, resort to different ruses and slanders by voicing the uproar of alleged communist danger or Soviet threat and impose their plans on the stooge leaders of countries such as Saudi Arabia. The communist danger allegation is an old ruse used by the Zionists and big Western monopolies, especially American, against the anti-imperialist movements of these countries. Now the propaganda machinery of imperialist countries, especially American, have outdone themselves and exert efforts to portray themselves as supporters of Islam. How can U.S. imperialism and British neocolonialism, who have murdered Muslim strugglers for tens of years in order to plunder oil resources, be supporters of Islam? All these ruses are a means for securing the continued plunder of national wealth of Persian Gulf countries and for expanding their military presence in the region.

The nations of the Persian Gulf region have understood very well that in order to be able to exercise their national rights over their national wealth, an end should be put to the plundering of the oil cartel and to world-devouring U.S. imperialism's military presence in the region, and they are continuing their struggle in this path.

7 Apr Commentary

TA071958 [Editorial Report] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 7 April carried a commentary entitled: "The Fruits of The Revolution Belong to The Millions of Masses." It said that in a meeting with a group of our homeland's slumdwellers, Imam Khomeyni once again declared his affection and concern for these toiling and deprived people. It was through the self-sacrifice of these millions of the oppressed of the towns and villages that the glorious revolution of the Iranian nation triumphed. The expectation of harvesting the fruits of the popular, people's democratic and Islamic revolution is a completely natural expectation. However, the genuine forces that secured the revolution's victory have still not enjoyed the fruits of the revolution, and this is an undeniable fact. Millions of the oppressed of the towns and villages and the true forces of the revolution offered sacrifices in the tens of thousands. However, those who according to Imam Khomeyni were sitting on the sidelines and were waiting to exploit the revolution's triumph, came along and concentrated the government's power in their hands. During the 9 months of their rule these people dealt the biggest blows on the revolution and its gains, and did not let millions of the oppressed of Iran's towns and villages attain their rights after the revolution's victory.

The provisional government went so far on the path of treason to the revolution and its gains as to sit behind the negotiating table with the sworn enemy of the Iranian revolution, the Zionist Brzezinski, in Algiers. If it were not for the Iranian nation's vigilance and the revolutionary decisiveness of Imam Khomeyni, it is not clear what those who openly and officially expressed regret for participating in the revolution would have done to the revolution. Those who also today are still engaged in subversion and dealing blows to the revolution and its gains are these same liberals and their Maoist American associates, the dependent capitalists, the big landowners and the feudalists; in other words, the oppressors and other parasites of society. It is the duty of government officials to build their programs on the basis of securing the material and moral welfare of the working people. They should be uncompromising with the enemies and opponents of the oppressed, and should expel them and their liberal supporters from military and civilian organizations. By having millions of the oppressed of the towns and villages participate in running the affairs of the country, they should strive to consolidate the foundation of the revolution as much as possible and guarantee the continuity and deepening of the popular and anti-imperialist line of the revolution and the imam.